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From Saturday May 23. to Tuesday May 26. 1719.

The Answer of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, to His Majesty's most gracious Letter.

May it please your Majesty,

THE great Honour done us by your Majesty's most gracious Letter, and your Royal Goodness in condescending to signify your Satisfaction with former General Assemblies, adds new Life and Vigour to that constant Zeal and Affection to your Majesty's Person and Government, which the Members of this Church reckon their Duty and their Glory, and lays us under the strongest Obligations to conduct ourselves with that Temper and Unanimity that becomes us, and to endeavour, in the best Manner we are able, to approve ourselves to God, and to your Majesty.

The great Encouragement we have by your Majesty's assuring us of your ready and chearful Concurrence in whatever Methods shall be taken for promoting true Religion and Piety, the discouraging Profaneness and Immorality, and preventing the Growth of Popery, renders us inexcusable, should we be wanting on our Part to exert ourselves to the utmost towards obtaining these good Ends.

Your Majesty's extraordinary Condescension in taking Care to have the Differences amongst us, on Account of the Oaths, happily removed, is an unparallelled Instance of Royal Goodness, for which we can never be sufficiently thankful; and as it gives us the comfortable Prospect of happy Effects to follow upon it, so it calls us to guard ourselves with the strictest Care and Watchfulness against the Practices of such as would endeavour to raise unhappy Divisions amongst us, and whatever may lessen that Concord and brotherly Love which tends so much to the Honour and Welfare of this Church.

The Earl of Rothes his steady Adherence at all times to the Interest of the happy Revolution and Protestant Succession; his great Zeal for your Majesty's Service; his good Affection to the Church of Scotland; the Proof he has formerly given of his eminent Abilities for discharging the high Trust wherewith he is now cloathed, render your Majesty's Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us.

That Almighty God may plentifully inrich your Majesty with his best Blessings, and advance your glorious Designs for the Happiness of your own People, and the Good of the whole Protestant Interest; that his watchful Providence may be your Protection, and return you in Safety to Great Britain; that he may eminently bless their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, their Royal Off-spring, and all your Royal Family; that as he has signally appeared in defeating the Attempts of your Majesty's Enemies, so he would continue his Goodness in supporting your righteous Cause, bless and direct your Councils, and prosper your Arms for preserving the Quiet of your Dominions, and restoring the Peace of Europe; and that after a long and prosperous Reign on Earth, your Majesty may be crowned with immortal Glory in Heaven, are the most fervent Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most Faithful, most Obedient, and most Loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*.

Signed in our Presence, in our Name, and at our Appointment by

Edinb. May 16. 1719.

James Greirson, Moderator.

Naples, May 12. The Imperial Reinforcements for Sicily will begin to imbark three Days hence, and by the 19th will put to Sea. They will consist of near 11000 Foot and above 2000 Horse, besides those lately sent to Melazzo and in Garrison there. The Vessels which are to transport them, will be convoyed by Sir George Byng with the British Men of War Barfleur, Lenox, Captain, Orford, Canterbury, Montague, and Dunkirk.

Genoa, May 16. We have an Account from Leghorn, that the Garland a British Man of War cruising off that Port, had taken a Bark laden with Provisions for the Spanish Troops in Sicily. The Loo, a British Man of War, is now cruising between this Place and Oneglia.

Berne, May 24. The Deputies which came hither lately from the Town of Bienne, to advise with this State concerning a Dispute that has happened between the Council of the said City and the Bishop of Porentru or Basil, who has a kind of limited Sovereignty over them, returned home three Days ago, having concerted with this Canton the proper Measures for adjusting the Difference with their Prince without departing from their Pri-